

## THE CHANGE

Special Proceedings Under Writ  
Night of State to Oppose  
the Motion.

Special Prosecutor Charles W. Hadley made no resistance to the motions for change of venue in the special state cases presented for hearing this morning in the circuit court. Changes of venue in all the cases naming David J. Cleland, police magistrate, were allowed from Judge N. A. Larson of the circuit court and Judge G. O. Dietz of the Moline city court. In this connection Edward Simmons, indicted jointly with Cleland on a charge of larceny, also took a change from these two judges.

Cyrus E. Dietz of Moline, counsel for Thomas Cox and for Anthony W. Billburg, also secured changes of venue for his clients from Judge Larson and Judge Charles J. Searle. The change for Cox was granted. In all five indictments against him, chief of which is the charge of complicity in the murder of William Gabel. Billburg is under indictment for the murder of Connor Looney. All motions for change of venue are based on alleged prejudice of the judges named towards the defendants.

Seek Writ for Billburg.

An early move on the part of Attorney Dietz to gain the release of Billburg under bond by habeas corpus proceedings was seen this morning. Mr. Dietz announced that he has a petition for a writ of habeas corpus prepared and directed to Judge W. T. Church of Alledo, since a change of venue has been taken from Judge Larson and Searle. Mr. Dietz was delayed today in bringing the question of the writ to a hearing before Judge Church by the presence of the Alledo jurist in Chicago. Arrangements had been made for Special Prosecutor Hadley, Mr. Dietz and Billburg to go to Alledo this afternoon to gain an immediate hearing, but word of Judge Church's absence from the Mercer county seat was received at noon. It is likely that the matter will be considered Tuesday.

By a writ of habeas corpus, Mr. Dietz seeks to force the state prosecutors to produce all the evidence against Billburg in court and prove if possible that the evidence warrants his further detention without bond. The petition relates that Mr. Dietz-as counsel for Billburg personally interviewed all the witnesses whose names appear on the indictment as having given evidence to the grand jury, and that from their stories it appears that the defendant has been unjustly indicted. It is represented that no substantial evidence was received by the grand jury connecting Billburg with the shooting of John Connor Looney in the Market square street battle of Oct. 6.

January Grand Jury.

The January Rock Island county grand jury will be sworn in Monday morning, New Year's day, by Judge Charles J. Searle in accordance with the law, which makes no provision for holidays. The work of the new grand jury will not start until Tuesday, however. While it is admitted that the September grand jury struck into the core of the Rock Island vice situation by returning 41 indictments, it is believed that there are other matters remaining which the new grand jury will be asked to consider. The September grand jury declared upon adjournment that there is still work to be done before the evil growth of 20 years have been entirely eradicated. Chief investigator H. S. Mosher, this morning stated that he does not know whether Attorney-General Edward J. Brundage plans to take charge of the new grand jury. Since his return to Rock Island early this week Mr. Mosher has been concerned chiefly in perfecting the evidence to be used by the state in the prosecution of defendants already under indictment.

## MRS. H. C. FIRST GOES IN DEATH

End Comes After Only Few Days  
of Serious Illness; Lived in  
Rock Island 18 Years.

Mrs. Henry C. First, who celebrated her 80th birthday anniversary Christmas, passed away at 6 o'clock last evening in her home, 1031 Twenty-first street, following an illness of many months. She had been seriously ill, but a few days previous to her death.

Mrs. First, whose maiden name was a child and she lived there until her marriage to Rev. H. C. First. She had been a resident in Illinois a great many years, residing in Rock Island since 1904.

Mrs. First was a lifelong member of the Baptist church, and was a faithful and efficient worker until advancing years made it impossible for her to continue in her chosen work. She held membership in the Women's Relief corps and Fort Armstrong chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. First was a charter member of the Woman's club.

Surviving are the widower, Rev. H. C. First and a daughter, Miss Georgia First, of home; a son, Dr. F. H. First, Rock Island; two sisters, Mrs. G. R. Cunningham, Washington, Ill., and Mrs. A. B. Buckley, Phoenix, Ariz.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon in the home. Rev. G. A. Rhoads, pastor of the First Baptist church, will conduct the services. Burial will be in Chicago's cemetery.

## SCOUT BAND IS GUEST AT FINE DINNER PARTY

Rotarians Proud of Lads, John  
Huntton Tells Them, and  
Proposes Continued Support.

The Boy Scout band had one of its best times of the year last evening at the annual banquet in the Y. W. C. A.

Nearly every member was present and other guests included representatives of the executive committee and advisors of the band. The program committee headed by Robert Cavanaugh and John Blackman had prepared a program which was enjoyed throughout. Elizabeth Dahlen, accompanied by Ruth Coy, gave several musical readings. They were cleverly selected and she was recalled several times. Frank Galt, a band member, gave a reading, "The Deserter." Robert Cavanaugh as chairman called upon the various members of the band to respond to short talks. The boys said that the band would be better than ever and that every member would work hard to this end. Director A. N. Hoelcher emphasized the value of team work and said that the band was no better than its poorest musician.

John G. Huntton, president of the Rotary club, which is sponsoring the organization, pledged its continued support. He said Rotarians were proud of the band and especially so after the splendid concert broadcast from the WOC station Monday evening.

J. F. Witter, president of the local council reminded the band members that they had wonderful opportunities as musicians. D. B. Bergquist, scout executive, George L. Booth, assistant scout executive, and Dr. Louis Ostrom who has been connected with the band since its inception spoke briefly. The main talk of the evening was given by William B. McIntyre who was cleverly introduced by John Blackman of the band.

The band will furnish music, January 9, at the court house when the next class of citizens will be naturalized.

## VAUDEVILLE TO PLAY ALL WEEK COLUMBIA PLAN

The Columbia theatre, Davenport, will have vaudeville all of next week, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday included. The reason for this change in the theatre's policy was made necessary because of the cancellation of road attractions billed for New Year's day. Originally "Up in the Clouds" was programmed for presentation Monday and Tuesday, and this road show having failed to continue on the road, and the Orpheum circuit executive being against a dark house on a holiday, they soon assembled a great bill for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

No less a star than Ned Norworth and his company will be co-headlined on this program with the

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## CROUCH-WARREN STATUS SETTLED

Scott County's Most Married Woman  
Starts New Year With  
Record Straight.

Clementine Berry-Crouch-Warren—Scott county's most married woman—will begin the New Year with the record straight.

She was granted a divorce from Lawrence Crouch yesterday in the district court and permission was extended to remarry within a year. She was on the way to the license bureau with Forrest Warren within an hour, and they were married in the afternoon. The marriage gives Mrs. Warren's five-month-old child a legal name.

Her divorce petition was granted on grounds of cruel and inhuman treatment and conviction for a felony. Petition for an annulment of the decree filed by Forrest Warren was dismissed and the worst matrimonial tangle ever presented to the Scott county courts ended.

Lawrence Crouch, alias McCright, is serving a five-year term in Fort Madison for bigamy and Mrs. Crouch-Warren is on parole. Crouch persuaded his wife to marry Warren, it is said, that he might not be embarrassed in his plan to marry an Ottumwa girl. He was witness to his wife's bigamous marriage and she in turn attended his wedding as a witness. It was discovered that no formality of divorce had been completed with and prosecutions followed.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY WILL BE HOLIDAY FOR POSTOFFICE

The Rock Island postoffice will suspend operations Monday in observance of New Year's day, according to the announcement made today by Postmaster Harry P. Simpson. The windows in the lobby will be closed for the day, and there will be no delivery of mail except perishable parcel post, and special delivery matter.

Collections will be made in accordance with the regular holiday schedule, and all outgoing mail will be dispatched as usual.

## FANCY SKATERS TO BE SEEN AT PROSPECT PARK

Gladys Lamb and Norval Baptie,  
World Famous Cutters, to  
Show Their Stuff.

Gladys Lamb and Norval Baptie, two of the world's best fancy skaters, will be the headline attraction at Prospect park lagoon Monday afternoon. They are the features of an afternoon of speed events. Baptie besides being a fancy skater of reputation, is also a speed demon on the cutters, having held the American open title. Lovers of the steel blade sport are sure to put in one of the happiest afternoons of their lives if they witness these two sterling performers.

## U.S. APPEALS TO WORLD OPINION ON REPARATION

(Continued from First Page.)

The bankers' commission idea was under discussion.

It was pointed out in these dispatches at the time that the key to the situation was to be found in the report of the international bankers' committee made in June. That committee made certain recommendations but France didn't accept them. The situation has not changed since then. The American government is merely reviving the suggestion that a commission really try again.

When the committee of bankers met in Paris in June, the French paid no attention to its suggestion. Now the American government hopes the situation has proceeded far enough for France to see the error of her way.

The bankers are ready to examine Germany's assets and resources again and to recommend a loan to Germany wherever her first payments can be made but France must first agree to give up her apparently unrestricted right to punish Germany whenever she pleases.

Play Trump Card.

If the United States government had been able to convince France in the last fortnight that such a plan was worth trying, the appeal to public opinion wouldn't have been necessary. But the French government has been more or less mercenary of late, anyway. First, it seemed as if France would invade the Ruhr, then the policy was abandoned. Realizing the tremendous moral influence which the United States wields in the world today, the decision was made here to make the American plan almost on the eve of the conference of premiers in Paris. That conference meets next Tuesday.

Between now and then the impression made by the Harding-Hughes proposal for a revival of the international bankers' committee idea will be carefully weighed by French opinion. After many months of clamoring for American help, the French will pause before they reject a concrete suggestion

which is so carefully worded that it involves no responsibility on the part of any of the governments to accept the recommendations of the commission when once made.

"Governments need not bind themselves in advance," said Mr. Hughes in his New Haven speech, "to accept the recommendations of such an inquiry with their approval and free the men who may represent their country in such a commission from any responsibility to foreign offices and from any duty to do so but they would have the advantage of impartial advice and of an enlightened public opinion. Peoples would be informed, the question would be rescued from assertion and counter-assertion and the problem put upon its way to solution."

Want Banker's Commission.

The foregoing quotation lifts the curtain on what has been happening ever since the first hints were given that diplomatic moves of prime importance were being made by America in the European situation. It shows why the Borah resolution for an economic conference was regarded as muddying the waters at this time. It shows that the American government was driving hard for the appointment of a commission of banks to meet in international conference and that France was privately arguing that no political situation would permit of any recession of this time from her announced policy of making Germany pay the sums specified a year ago in the London conference.

But with all the cards on the table, the American government has played its trump card—publicity. France cannot very well reject a suggestion that the commission inquiry be appointed. It can't say in advance that the commission will do the wrong thing. It can only say that the matter has already been investigated but that would not dispose of it for there is a difference of opinion as to what Germany's capacity to pay has been and will be. There is a distinct feeling here that the world is on the threshold of another victory for open diplomacy—as against secret negotiation and international policies.

## TWO TEAMS FORFEIT LEAGUE PLAY GAMES

The first Lutheran church team defeated the Memorial Christian five in a one-sided basketball tilt last night in the senior league games in the Y gym. The score was 38 to 3. The First Methodist team forfeited to the Central Presbyterian team by failing to appear at the appointed hour.

In the junior league games last night the Central Presbyterian team won from the South Park Presbyterians in a hotly contested game, 19 to 7. The First Lutheran whitewashed the Memorial Christian team, 19 to 0.

The Central Presbyterian church team forfeited to the South Park Presbyterians in the intermediate league. A large crowd witnessed the games.

George Bernard Shaw is 66 years old.

CHICHESTER'S PILLS

## FISHER IN LINE FOR PRESIDENCY OF SCHOOL CLUB

Henrietta Sienknecht Goes Into  
Third Group in State Spelling  
Competition.

Six delegates from the Black Hawk division of the Illinois State Teachers' association, including E. C. Fisher, superintendent of schools, and Justin Washburn, county superintendent of schools, who made up the Rock Island delegation, returned from the 79th annual meeting in Springfield which closed yesterday.

Other delegates from the division who were present were John Casto, East Moline; James Darnall, Geneseo; W. F. Houston, county superintendent of schools in Henry county, and Arthur Lewis, Orion.

E. C. Fisher was advanced by the convention to a higher place in the executive committee of which he is a member. The promotion puts Mr. Fisher in line for the presidency of the association two years from now.

O. L. Manchester, Normal, was appointed chairman of the committee and Miss Bertha Armbruster, Chicago, was chosen to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Fisher's promotion.

Miss Henrietta Sienknecht, the Rock Island county entrant in the spelling contest, went down on the words, "chieftain," and "peculiarity." It was a written contest, with 800 words in the first group. The spellers were then graded.

"Chieftain" Stumbling Block.

Mrs. Winifred Hutton, principal of Franklin school, who accompanied Henrietta to the meeting, said that Henrietta spelled "chieftain" correctly at first but later transposed the letters.

The winner of the contest was Bernice Bishop, Cuba. This school won the contest last year. The girl who was fighting for first place with Bernice went down when she spelled "castor oil," with an "e." Two girls turned in perfect papers, five with one word misspelled and three missed two words. Henrietta Sienknecht was one of the latter group. There were 45 in the contest.

## FARMS SUFFER IN DRY WINTER

Crop Correspondent Says Lack of  
Moisture Becomes Serious Problem;  
Stock Statistics.

Farm animals are enjoying the mild winter but farm lands are not greatly benefited by the unusual lack of rain or snow, Charles C. Campbell, county crop correspondent, points out in his January livestock schedule, completed today.

"The ground being frozen, the surface water has evaporated leaving a noticeable aridity and there is not bright prospect of much moisture before early spring," he concludes.

Mules, milch cows and other cattle are as numerous now as in ordinary years, but the number of horses is two per cent less than a year ago and five per cent less than the average. Prices for horses are: \$25 up to a year old; \$50, up to two, and \$65, over two years old; mules, \$30 under one year; \$60 under two years and \$75 over two years. Milch cows average \$42. Sheep and swine are as numerous as last year, but five and two per cent below the average number.

Farm prices at the end of the month: Corn, 62 cents a bushel; wheat, \$1.10; oats, 40 cents; barley, 50 cents; rye, 80 cents; white potatoes, 80 cents; apples, 90 cents; hay, \$11 a ton, loose, \$13 baled.

Dairy prices: Butter, 45 cents; eggs, 48 cents; chickens, 15 cents and cream, 50 cents.

## ARBITRATION BOARD TO DIVIDE \$90 OF ROBBER'S MONEY

John Weir, Scott county attorney, board of three to determine division of \$90 held by the state as evidence in the Hoskinson case. Hoskinson has been sentenced to 10 years in Anamosa for robbery of Mrs. Elsie Leckband. She says that the money belongs to her. Mrs. Smith, living on City Island, claims \$30 which she says is her money, taken by the police from a dresser with other currency, despite the protest she made. Hoskinson has claimed \$47.77 of the fund as his own money.

Every man is hoping for the approval of his fellow-men. We have won it by consistent effort in such manner will we strive to retain it.

HODGSON  
OBAN

## PHILIPS PRESENTS NEW COLLECTION TO SCIENCE BODY

The Davenport Academy of Sciences tomorrow afternoon will exhibit for the first time the C. A. Philips collection of Greek, Egyptian and Roman antiquities, given to it this week by Mr. Ficks. Announcement of his donation to the academy came the day following his offer to the municipality to present a \$500,000 art collection if a suitable museum is constructed.

The academy collection represents work of 20 years and includes a great array of material collected by Mr. Ficks on his travels in those countries.

## TRINITY CHORUS GIVES CANTATA

"Star of Bethlehem," Harker Musical  
Story of Nativity Presented  
at Vesper Service.

Six soloists and a chorus of 25 will present the Christmas cantata, "The Star of Bethlehem," in the Trinity Episcopal church at 4:30 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. It is the first presentation in the tri-city of F. Flaxington Harker's excellent and pleasing work and every effort has been made to give it a suitable production.

Miss Millie Beck is director of the cantata, and Mrs. Harvey Sangren, organist. Soloists for the production are: Soprano—Miss Millie Beck and Mrs. Charles Warren. Alto—Mrs. George Baker. Tenor—Frank McKinley. Bass—Ralph Syrett and Kenneth Stockdale.

The musical numbers of the cantata follow:

Instrumental introduction, "Darkness and Light"—Organ.  
Prophecy of the coming, "Arise, O Jerusalem" (bass).  
Chorus, "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord" (with bass solo).

The advent, "Awake, Awake, Put on Thy Strength" (soprano, alto and tenor); "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains" (soprano).  
The annunciation, "The Angel Gabriel Was Sent From God" (tenor); "Hail, Thou That Art Highly Favored" (soprano); "Behold the Handmaid of the Lord" (alto).

Chorus, "And There Were Shepherds"; "Fear Not, for Behold" (soprano).  
Chorus, "Glory to God in the Highest"; "Let Us Now Go Even Unto Bethlehem" (chorus of shepherds, tenor and bass soloists); "And They Came With Haste" (tenor).

March of Magi, Instrumental interlude.  
Herod and the Magi, "Now When Jesus Was Born" (bass); "Where is He That Is Born King" (soprano and bass); "Go and Search Diligently" (bass); "When They Had Heard the King" (tenor).  
Final chorus, "Glory to God in the Highest."

## Y. M. C. A. CAFETERIA

Open Daily From 11:30 to 1:30 P. M.

## New Year's Day Dinner

Served from 11:30 to 1:30 P. M.

Everybody Invited.

## MAKE "WASH DAY" AN "EXTRA DAY"

An Extra Day for sewing, reading, shopping, rest and recreation—not a "BLUE MONDAY" wash-day at home! We'll gladly take over ALL THE Family Wash

You'll appreciate how we insure longer life to everything washable! how perfectly we sterilize! how thoroughly we cleanse by the ample use of pure, SOFT WATER.

We'll dry everything, starch the pieces that need it, and iron all the flat pieces—or we'll return your bundle completely ironed if you wish.

THE COST IS SMALL and "WASH DAY" becomes an "EXTRA DAY" for other things.

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Our Cars Pass Your Door Daily